

MEET THE YOUNG SPY STAR OF 'KINGSMAN'

TARON EGERTON TALKS ABOUT ACTING WITH LEGENDS. PAGE 19



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Tuesday, February 17, 2015 www.metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

EXPECTED VALUE

Future stars. Metro columnist Glen Macnow tries to predict the next MVP on each of Philly's struggling franchises. PAGES 32-33



Joel Embiid, Fletcher Cox, J.P. Crawford and Claude Giroux may just be the best hopes for Philly sports fans. / GETTY IMAGES

Dems snub well-liked incumbent in primary

PAGE 02

A dream come true for fashion students

PAGE 14

Bieber's surprising Fashion Week BFF

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1 NEWS

Top 3

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1 'Source: Chris Johnson, Michael Vick leaving Jets'

2 'The gay dating app Scruff hopes to shift focus from hookups to relationships with new feature'

3 'It ain't over: As buried Boston keeps digging, more snow on way for Northeast U.S.'



On the go

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Democrats once again snub Quinones-Sanchez

Politics. A two-term City Councilwoman will fight against her own party for renomination this year. She's not surprised.

Heading into a re-election campaign for her third term representing the 7th District in Philadelphia City Council, Democrat Maria Quinones-Sanchez will again face a party-sponsored opponent, despite wide support in her community.

"We have some political in-fighting," acknowledged Quinones-Sanchez, after 11 of 12 ward leaders in the 7th District voted Monday

to endorse Manny Morales to run against Quinones-Sanchez for the Democratic nomination in the May primary.

Historically, there has been a tension between ward leaders and elected officials in a community that is still learning to exercise its political clout.

"The party in this case went to the bottom of the barrel," Quinones-Sanchez said of her opponent, saying he was not well-known in the community. "There's a difference between a candidate that has been active and out there and someone who is filling a slot for a struggle that is going on."

The city's 7th council district includes much of Kensington up to North Philadelphia, an impoverished area that has a large Latino population.



Quinones-Sanchez /COURTESY

Morales, who moved to the U.S. from Puerto Rico in 2006, resigned from his position as state Department of Labor investigator just weeks ago to run for the seat. He is married with five kids.

"As an elected official, I'm a public servant. I'm going to make a point of serving the public and not serving myself," Morales said of his campaign, via a spokesman. "I want to re-

store loyalty and unity to our district."

This is hardly the first time Quinones-Sanchez was not endorsed by the Philadelphia Democratic City Political Committee, which is chaired by Congressman Bob Brady.

She was snubbed in her first campaign in 2007 and again in 2011 — making her the only incumbent Democrat not endorsed by the party, she said.

"It's a combination of never being part of the team and a little payback," said longtime political observer Larry Ceisler of the party's rejection of Quinones-Sanchez — citing her support for a slate of four candidates for local and state offices in 2014, some of whom ran against Democrat-endorsed politicians.

"She's always been on

the other side of the party. Some people just end up there," he said.

Quinones-Sanchez's tenure in City Council has been noted for her work toward creating the Land Bank, as well as her dedication to community activities on behalf of women and the poor.

Ceisler said she's also proven comfortable with the business world.

"A dispute over the 7th District's council seat is nothing new," Ceisler said.

He added: "Since 1987, every four years there's been a primary fight in that district."

Quinones-Sanchez will officially launch her campaign Tuesday.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Know your history

Presidents Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Roosevelt took part in a town hall meeting on Monday during the National Constitution Center's Presidents Day celebrations, which children attended dressed up as their favorite presidents. / CHARLES MOTTOLIER



Philly

Five inches of snow forecast

Philly is forecast to be digging out of four inches of snow Tuesday morning, exceeding the January 6 snowfall of 1.5 inches.

Snowfall was expected to end by 8 a.m. today, but temperatures are forecast to stay below 30 all day.

METRO

By the numbers

3

Monday saw temperatures of just 3 degrees around 6:30 a.m., the coldest temperature in the area in a decade.

Honor. PSP troopers blast new commish over uniform right

State police and their supporters have taken to social media to bash Gov. Wolf's pick to become the state's top cop.

On the "He didn't earn it he shouldn't wear it" Facebook page, which

has more than 3,000 likes, followers are taking former Maryland State Police Superintendent Marcus Brown to task for starting to wear a Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) uniform

after getting the job, even though he didn't graduate from the PSP Academy and isn't from Pennsylvania.

Brown "did not earn the right to wear PSP gray. He should wear

a suit or attend the academy," the page states.

However, there may be more to the troopers' ire than the uniform.

Brown was sworn in as acting commissioner last month and still faces

confirmation hearings.

Brown defended himself against critics in an interview with ABC 27, saying he is wearing the uniform to show that he works for the PSP. **SAM NEWHOUSE**



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Bucks priest on leave over his 'suitability'

Philly. Archbishop Charles Chaput puts Bucks County priest Louis Kolenkiewicz on leave amid probe.



Archbishop Charles Chaput / GETTY IMAGES

Philadelphia Archbishop Charles J. Chaput has put the Rev. Louis J. Kolenkiewicz on administrative leave "in response to concerns regarding his suitability for ministry."

In a statement on its website, the archdiocese said the "concerns do not involve allegations of illegal or inappropriate contact with a minor, but constitute alleged violations of The Standards of Ministerial Behavior and Boundaries" involving young people.

Kolenkiewicz had been ministering in Bucks County at Saint Bede the Venerable Parish in Holland

Quoted

"Only vigilance protects kids."

Clohesy

most recently, but the case in question regards allegations from 2005 that were "fully reviewed by law enforcement then and again in 2011," the archdiocese statement said.

"Additional information concerning these same allegations has been received by the Archdiocese, requiring that the matter be reviewed again," and the priest has been put on

administrative leave "in an abundance of caution."

"Often times, the priests who are reinstated tend to be very politically connected both inside and outside the church," David Clohesy, the director of SNAP, a national advocacy group for victims of clergy sex abuse, told The Philadelphia Inquirer.

"It's crucial that every single person with information or suspicions come forward," he said. "Only vigilance protects kids."

JOHN A. OSWALD
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Firefighters freeze building to save it

Firefighters at the scene of an intense overnight two-alarm fire at the Locust Medical Center building at 52nd and Locust streets on Feb. 16. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Mayfair

No answers in roof-riding death

Police are still investigating the death of a teenage boy after he fell from the top of a moving car on Friday night.

Police have not released the name of the victim, 16, who died in a hospital Saturday from the injuries he sustained at the end of the three-block ride Friday night at 11:15 p.m.

The driver of the vehicle involved was tracked down Sunday, but cops are still

seeking witnesses. There have been no arrests.

According to the police report, the teen was seen on top of a small white vehicle on Levick Street off Frankford Avenue. Police did not say if he knew the driver or if he got on top of "a random car." METRO

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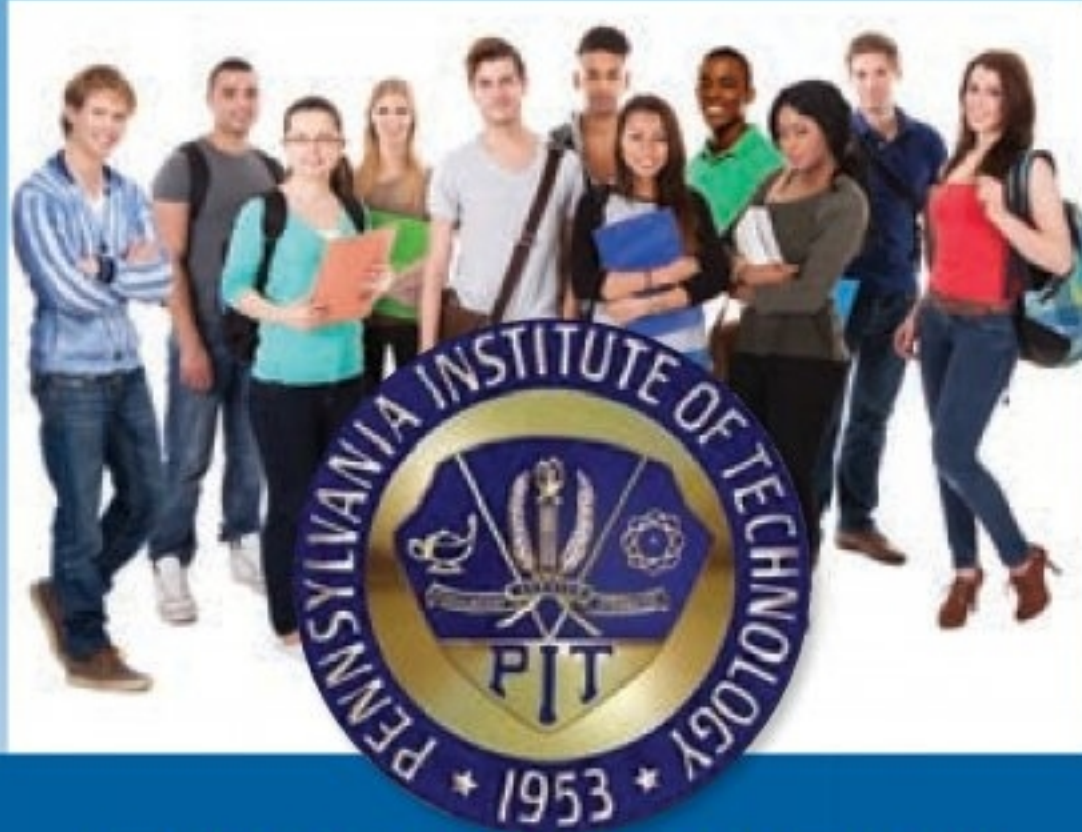
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FORECASTS? FOR THE BIRDS

In 33 days, we won't care.

By then we will have seen the renewal of daylight saving time and, on March 20, the first day of spring.

The winter snow and chill will likely be gone, the sun will return, and local TV stations will have to find something else to win viewers.

Which means you may then cease the panicked dash to the ACME to get the bread and milk before a half-inch of snow falls.

Folks are still talking about their newfound skepticism about weather reports.

Dave Dombek, senior meteorologist at Pennsylvania-based AccuWeather says modern media and social media can beat the weather drum louder and faster than need be.

"That's a trend in recent years," he said. "Sources of information today are just vast, it's overwhelming," he said.

The weather is with you always, even on your cellphone and your computer. And somehow you want that human being on television to tell you even more.

"It is one of the universal content elements," says Nick Lawler, a media consultant with Frank N. Magid Associates. TV news needs something to fill all that time.

Frankly, even if we had been hit with 6 to

Street talk

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Street Talk

"Remember the sky-is-falling tone of local news reports at the end of January? You do, because that was the Storm That Never Arrived."

10 inches of snow during that January nor'easter, it wouldn't have been the end of the world. Something just over 30 inches fell here on a day in 1996. First, it was a record for our region, and second, some of us — ahem — trudged to work somehow that day.

So, you're going to hit the ACME panic button for 6 to 10 inches on that day at the end of January?

You were. An acquaintance recalls standing in the "express" line at his supermarket that day — behind 60 other people.

In any event, those 6 to 10 inches actually amounted to little more than could cover the grass.

At the time, the National Weather Service said it was because the great Nor'easter blew farther out to sea than anybody thought it would.

No apologies from the folks at AccuWeather's home base in State College.

"It is an imperfect science," Dombek said.

But, he reckoned, his colleagues do learn from their mistakes, asking themselves, "Was there something we didn't see?"

As for the non-storm in January, well, you have your long and slow Nor'easters, which are pretty predictable, and your quicker and shorter weather systems, which are not.

This was the latter. Just be thankful you don't live in Boston.



A man trudges through the snow in Center City on Jan. 6. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Oil train derailed in West Virginia, explosions follow

Precautions.

WOWK TV reported that nearby towns of Adena Village and Boomer Bottom were evacuated.

A CSX Corp train hauling North Dakota crude derailed in West Virginia on Monday, setting a number of cars ablaze, destroying a house and forcing the evacuation of two towns in the second significant oil-train incident in three days.

One or two of the cars plunged into the Kanawha River, and "a couple are burning," said Robert Jelacic, night shift manager of the West Virginia Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. There were no injuries or deaths, he said.

West Virginia State Police First Sergeant Greg Duckworth, who was at the crash site, said that nine or 10 of the cars had exploded at intervals of about every half hour.

A similar sequence has occurred in a handful of other derailments over the past year and a half, with the fire from one tank heating up gases in the



A 1-mile-wide area around the incident was being evacuated said Lawrence Messina, spokesman for the West Virginia Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety. / YOUTUBE/SKINNY JOEY

Train cars

109

CSX said the train was hauling 109 cars from North Dakota to the coastal town of Yorktown, Virginia, where midstream firm Plains All American Pipelines runs an oil depot. It said one person was being treated for potential fume inhalation.

next nearest car, causing it to ignite.

"It's a real mess down here," Duckworth said. He said all but 14 of the cars on the train had been pulled out of harm's way.

West Virginia Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin issued a state of emergency for Kanawha and Fayette counties after the derailment. **REUTERS**

N. Carolina. Jury indicts suspect in killings of Muslims near college

A grand jury indicted a North Carolina man on Monday for the shooting deaths of a newlywed Muslim couple and the wife's sister last week, a court official said.

Craig Hicks, 46, of Chapel Hill, was charged by a grand jury with three counts of first-degree murder and one of discharging a firearm into an occupied dwelling, said Angela Kelly, an assistant clerk of the Durham County Superior Court.

Deah Barakat, 23, a University of North Carolina dental student; his wife, Yusor Abu-Salha, 21; and



Hicks / DURHAM COUNTY OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF HANDOUT

her sister, Razan Abu-Salha, 19, a student at North Carolina State University, were gunned down last Tuesday in a condominium about two miles from the University of North Carolina campus. Investigators have said initial

findings indicate a dispute over parking prompted the shooting, but they are looking into whether Hicks was motivated by hatred toward the victims because they were Muslim.

The case has garnered international attention and has raised concerns among some Muslim advocates in the United States who say they have seen an increase in threats in recent weeks.

The FBI has said it is opening its own preliminary inquiry. It has not specified if the inquiry would include whether the shooting was a hate crime. **REUTERS**

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Israel

Election chief puts curbs on Netanyahu speech to Congress

The head of Israel's election commission acted on Monday to limit any pre-election boost Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu may get from a March 3 speech

to the U.S. Congress, in which he will warn of the threat from Iran's nuclear program.

The speech has caused controversy in Israel and the United States, where Democrats and the White House are angry that the Republican Speaker of the House of Representatives, John Boehner, invited Netanyahu

to speak at a sensitive time in the nuclear negotiations between Iran and six big powers including Washington, and only two weeks before Israel's closely fought March 17 election.

Following complaints from opposition parties, election chief Salim Joubran decided that Netanyahu's address should be broadcast with a five-minute

delay in Israel, giving news editors time to cut any statements deemed partisan.

"Editors-in-chief of broadcast channels will watch and make sure that nothing the prime minister says can be construed as election campaigning," Joubran said in a statement. "Any campaigning will be omitted from the broadcast." **REUTERS**



Mourning people lay down flowers in front of the Jewish synagogue in the center of Copenhagen. /REX USA

Defiant Danes march after deadly attacks

Terrorist. Jewish leaders also called for calm and tolerance as some Muslims fear a backlash.

Tens of thousands of Danes gathered at torch-lit memorials around the country on Monday, commemorating victims of deadly attacks on a synagogue and an event promoting free speech that shocked a nation proud of its record of safety and openness.

Singing John Lennon's "Imagine," defiant Danes promised to uphold their trademark open society and showed solidarity with the country's Muslim minority after reports the gunman was a Dane with Palestinian roots and a passion for Islamist issues.

The 22-year-old gunman opened fire on a cafe hosting a free speech debate on Saturday, killing one, and attacked a synagogue, killing a guard. He was later killed in a shoot-out with police in his neighborhood of Nørrebro, a largely immigrant part of the city with a reputation for gang violence.

Police, who have not publicly identified the gunman, arrested two people on suspicion of aiding the

attacks but said there was no indication the shooter was part of a cell or had traveled to Syria or Iraq.

"The Danish democracy is strong, the Danish nation is strong, and we will not accept any attempt to threaten or intimidate our liberties and our rights," Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt told reporters.

"We fight together with them (Muslims) for religious rights. We are moderates. We fight together against extremism and radicalism," Dan Rosenberg Asmussen, chairman of the Danish Jewish Community, told a press conference.

Thousands of Danes left flowers at the synagogue, walking in a quiet, solemn procession, with many also leaving both Danish and Israeli flags. A march by PEGIDA, the anti-Islam movement born in Germany, however, attracted only around 50 people. **REUTERS**

Quoted

"We have now experienced the fear that terrorism seeks to spread."

Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt told reporters



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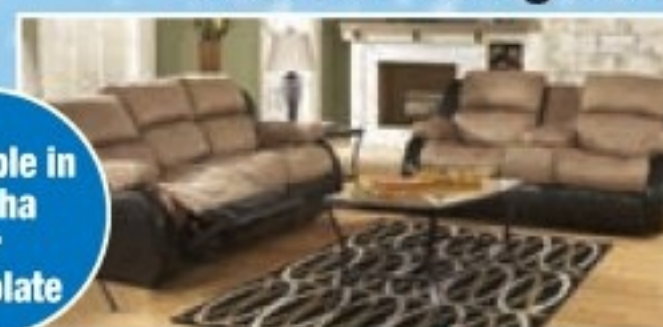
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Truce violated

Battle rages for town, rebels reject cease-fire

Pro-Russian rebels pounded encircled Ukrainian government forces on Monday and Kiev said it would not pull back heavy guns while a truce was being violated, leaving a peace deal on the verge of collapse.

The European Union

kept pressure on Russia and the rebels by announcing a new list of separatists and Russians targeted with sanctions, to which Moscow promised an "adequate" response.

Fighting subsided in many parts of eastern Ukraine under a cease-fire that came into force on Sunday, under the deal reached last week in marathon talks involving

the leaders of France, Germany, Russia and Ukraine.

But the truce appears to have been stillborn in Debaltsevo where the most intensive fighting has taken place in recent weeks.

"The situation is fragile," said German Chancellor Angela Merkel, the driving force behind the deal reached on Thursday after all-night talks in Minsk. **REUTERS**

Quoted

"It was always clear that much remains to be done. And I have always said that there are no guarantees that what we are trying to do succeeds. It will be an extremely difficult path." Merkel



Destroyed car and debris after Egypt's army warplanes carried out airstrikes in neighboring Libya against ISIL targets. / GETTY IMAGES

Egypt bombs ISIL targets in Libya after beheadings

Video. The 21 Egyptian Coptic Christians were marched to a beach, forced to kneel and then beheaded.

a sword that eradicates terrorism," the Egyptian military said in a statement.

Egyptian state television aired footage of fighter planes leaving a hangar with "Long live Egypt" emblazoned on their tails, followed by night-vision aerial footage showing bomb explosions and the aircraft returning in early daylight.

Libya's air force also participated in Monday's attack, which targeted Derna, an eastern coastal city regarded as a base for fighters of the ultra-radical Islamic State.

Libyan air force Commander Saqer al-Joroushi, who is loyal to Libya's internationally recognized government, which set up camp in the city of Tobruk after losing control of the capital Tripoli, said there would be more strikes on Tuesday. **REUTERS**

Quoted

"There are losses among individuals, ammunition and the (Islamic State) communication centers."

Libyan air force commander Saqer al-Joroushi, told Egyptian state television, adding that dozens had been killed.

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Meteorologist Brian Hurley said Washington and Baltimore are where the bulls eye's heading. / GETTY IMAGES

Icy storm encases central US, heads for nation's capital

Frigid. Blizzard will be followed by another Arctic front, bringing frigid cold to the east by Thursday.

Record-breaking cold gripped the Eastern United States on Monday as an icy winter storm crippled the nation's central states before it was expected to barrel toward the mid-Atlantic in time to snarl this morning commute.

Heavy snowfall and ice moving from the Southern Plains eastward pounded Missouri, Arkansas, southern Illinois, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio, the National Weather Service said.

Freezing rain encased Nashville in ice, canceling flights and closing Interstate 24, according to the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

Even the home of the king of rock 'n' roll — Elvis Presley's Graceland mansion in Memphis — declared a snow day.

Sleet in Arkansas shut schools and Governor Asa Hutchinson told nearly all government workers to stay home.

Cars skidded off roads near Louisville, Kentucky where there were six times the usual number of accidents and a fleet of more than 1,000 snow plows tried to clear slick roads, officials said.

"It's been all hands on deck," said Chuck Wolfe, spokesman for the Kentucky Transportation

Inches

10

The storm, which dumped 10 inches of snow on Cincinnati, causing roadway accidents and closing universities, was headed for the nation's capital later on Monday, with up to 12 inches of snow expected, said NWS meteorologist Brian Hurley.

Cabinet.

Citing nasty weather, Kentucky's state legislature said it would not reconvene until Wednesday at the earliest.

About 50 million Americans were under wind chill advisories as the mercury plunged to new depths, breaking records in New York, where it was 5 degrees Fahrenheit.

REUTERS

Washington

Monument shrinks slightly with new measurement

The Washington Monument, one of the landmarks of the U.S. capital, is officially 10 inches shorter under a new measurement announced on Monday's Presidents Day holiday.

The obelisk on Washington's National Mall is 554

feet, 7 and 11/32 inches tall, smaller than its historical height of 555 feet, 5 and 1/8 inches, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said in a statement.

The new measurement by NOAA's National Geodetic Survey is based on standards of the international Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitats and was completed in December, the statement

said.

"Today's elevation reflects the international standards for measurement of a building's height as well as considerable technological improvements," said Dru Smith, NOAA's chief geodesist.

REUTERS



GETTY IMAGES

Almost too good to eat. Flipping hot famous celebrity pancakes

Pancake artist Nathan Shields of Saipancakes has created "pan-portraits" of the celebrities whom Brits deem to be the smiliest.

Paying homage to the humble pancake, the elaborate culinary art, created with merely eggs, milk, flour and a touch of Lyle's Golden Syrup, Shield's partner in the project, has immortalized Kate Middleton as well as Grumpy Cat.

Shields, a work-at-home-dad and former mathematics teacher, began entertaining his children with creative and educational pancakes while living in Saipan. His portfolio of pancake images at saipancakes.com spans a broad range of subjects, including famous faces such as Nelson Mandela, Michael Jackson and Mickey Mouse, as well as themes from science, nature, and popular culture.

According to the poll by the syrup company, it's not all smiles, and on the flip side the edible "pan-portraits" also depict faces of the celebrities the public would love to see flash a smile. **REX USA**

Say cheese

48%

48 percent rated Victoria Beckham as the celebrity they most want to see smile more often.



THE KATE MIDDLETON PANCAKE
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The Philadelphia Housing Authority Board of Commissioners will hold its next regularly-scheduled meeting on:

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Moore's fashion designers of tomorrow step into the spotlight

Partnership. Century 21 exhibits student creations in its store windows.

For the next few weeks, shoppers at Century 21 at Eighth and Market streets shouldn't be surprised to see several Moore College of Art and Design students bringing their friends and family members to check out and take photos of the window displays.

Through a partnership between the college and the department store, several fashion design students have gowns and other pieces exhibited in the windows. The first Moore-designed windows were unveiled this weekend.

"I was so ecstatic when my gown was chosen," says senior Emily Oluoch. "I've shopped at Century

21 at the store in NYC and to have my garment displayed in the Philadelphia store is an amazing opportunity. It's a dream come true."

Oluoch won an award for the gown last spring. "I did one dress that was inspired by the Philadelphia Museum of Art," she explains. "It was basically made of slides that I got at the Resource Exchange [a thrift store]. And then I got LED lights and had them illuminated so that you can see the slides."

Oluoch, who is from Kenya, hopes this window display will be the first of many. "I do want to have my own line one day," she says. "We are working on our senior collections right now, and I hope to be on sale in Century 21 one day."

And you can certainly count on seeing Oluoch hanging out around the window once her dress



Emily Oluoch hard at work in her studio. / PROVIDED

goes on display in March. "If I can bring everybody with me, I will," she says with a laugh. One person she's particularly excited about showing the new display to is her father, who

happens to be visiting from Kenya.

"My dad is old school so he really doesn't understand fashion, and living in Kenya, it's not really considered a profession,"

she explains. "Having him there will really open his eyes."



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The details

Building a lasting partnership

In addition to displaying the creations of Moore students, Century 21 will also be hosting select students as interns at both the Philadelphia and New York City stores. "We made a commitment to the Philadelphia community that we would support them, and partnering with Moore College of Art was a great way to show our dedication to the thriving creative class here," says Valentino Vettori, Century 21's chief strategy officer.

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In brief

PCOM goes tobacco-free

February is National Heart Month and the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine decided to celebrate by quitting tobacco — for good.

The medical campus officially became tobacco free on February 1. In addition to prohibiting cigarettes, students, staff and visitors are also forbidden from using cigars, chewing tobacco and all other associated products on school grounds.

"The move underscores the College's commitment to providing an environment that promotes and supports a healthy lifestyle," school administrators said in a statement. The policy will also apply to PCOM's affiliated campus in Swannee, Georgia.

Drexel, Widener among the most underrated universities



Smoking on PCOM's campus is no longer allowed. / iStock

Two local universities were just named to Business Insider's list of most underrated schools in the country.

In compiling the list, Business Insider says it "specifically looked for schools that had relatively low rankings on the US News list, but high mid-career salaries."

Drexel came in at 48 on the list on the strength of the school's co-op program — which the site notes gives students real-world

experience while still an undergrad. An added bonus is that students have an average salary of \$88,000 a year 10 years after graduating.

Coming in at number seven on the list was Widener University in Chester. The list notes that Widener has a strong history of community service and civic engagement and its location allows students to easily commute to Philly for internships.

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AmEx losing appeal to millionaires

Stock market. As American Express courts ordinary spenders, rivals poach its wealthiest clients.

American Express Co., long the envy of the industry for its wealthy clientele, is fighting to retain its grip on affluent cardholders. Rivals including Barclays Plc and JPMorgan Chase & Co. are courting them with enhanced perks, lower fees and more incentives. And as AmEx seeks to diversify by pursuing tech-savvy millennials and under-banked Americans, the risk of eroding its brand — and its biggest source of revenue — is rising.

"AmEx's cachet with the affluent is not what it used to be," says Jason Arnold, an RBC Capital Markets analyst. "AmEx has always enjoyed king-of-the-hill status, but that's changed. They've seen more competition in the upper-end, and they recognize that they have to go elsewhere to fill that gap."



AmEx's stock fell 7.7 percent this year, as of Feb. 10. / GETTY IMAGES

Yet, still popular

Losing ground

AmEx remains the most widely held card among high-net-worth households, or those with \$1 million or more of investable assets, though its edge is narrowing, according to data from wealth-research firm Phoenix Marketing International.

Stats

59%

Fifty-nine percent of wealthy households had a card issued by AmEx last year, unchanged from 2012.

58%

Those holding a Chase-issued card rose to 58 percent from 52 percent. Among households making at least \$125,000 annually, Chase surpassed AmEx two years ago.

The competition is increasing as AmEx struggles to boost sales amid a slow-down in customer-spending growth. Revenue rose 6.6 percent in the fourth quarter, falling short of its 8 percent goal, while customer card spending increased 6 percent to \$268.5 billion, compared with 9 percent in the preceding three-month period. Expenses climbed to \$6.3 billion as the company says it planned to cut as many as 4,000 jobs this year to improve efficiency.

AmEx fell 7.7 percent this year through Feb. 10, the third-worst performance in the 30-company Dow Jones Industrial Average. The shares climbed in each of the previous six years.

Since the financial

crisis, banks have relied more on credit card fees to counter tepid loan demand and volatile trading. As consumers cut spending during the recession and a 2009 law known as the CARD Act limited lenders' ability to raise interest rates and charge late fees, banks revved up their pursuit of customers with top credit scores. Credit-card write-offs slid to less than 3 percent last year, the lowest in almost three decades, according to the Federal Reserve.

Most Americans carry at least three cards in their wallets and competition is fierce to supply the one that customers use for most of their purchases, says Matt Schulz, a senior analyst at Creditcards.com.

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3 New technologies to watch

Technology will always be thrusting us forward, but there are risks to our ferocious advancement. Below are three new technologies to keep an eye on:

Technology #1: Virtual reality

Virtual reality has been on the cusp of breaking out and going mainstream for what feels like decades, but there has never been a true breakthrough. Advancement has been mainly relegated to video games and other entertainment applications. With Facebook spending \$2 billion to purchase the small, virtual-reality, start-up Oculus and their ground-

breaking Rift virtual-reality device, perhaps now is this technology's time to shine. A consumer version of the Rift isn't expected for several months, but everyone who has tried it has been enamored, so keep watch in 2016 and 2017 as virtual reality may finally fulfill its promise.

Technology #2: Drones

The military has been using drones to carry out reconnaissance missions without having to risk our brave soldiers' lives, but more recently, the video and entertainment worlds have embraced footage

New England was hit with more blizzards. Boy, am I glad I moved down to Miami and am avoiding all the snow.

More shootings in Europe? C'mon, people, when are we going to learn violence is never the answer!



shot by drones as well. In the coming years, drone delivery will change the lives of regular people every day. Google and Amazon have each initiated programs to develop drone delivery, and while this faces regulatory and governmental issues galore, the need for fast, cheap and efficient delivery should turn this burgeoning industry into a necessity in the coming years.

Technology #3: Hyperloop

Elon Musk wins the award for most innovative person of the decade with his projects, which include Tesla (electric vehicles and batter-

For exclusive commentary, visit Metro.us/blogs.

ies), SpaceX (private space exploration) and SolarCity (solar power), which all push the boundaries on technology. His latest vision to transport cargo and eventually humans across vast distances at 600-760mph is the most far-fetched, yet also meaningful and important. Several companies have sprouted up to try to tackle this new technology, and if all goes well, we might see Hyperloop delivery tubes built from L.A. to Las Vegas in the next decade or so, revolutionizing the transportation industry forever.

What Tim Sykes is into this week...

The new "Fifty Shades of Grey" movie was actually pretty funny and far better than I expected it would be.



I was determined not to watch the Grammys this year and I'm glad I followed through, thus saving myself from enduring the snoozefest.

Apple is prepping an electric car, a win for environmentalists and innovation enthusiasts everywhere.



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(But, remember, he wasn't always an old ugly man - once, he was just ugly)

2

CULTURE



Twitter feed

Today, Hailee Steinfeld is a bit chilly, Bill Maher is an even prouder stoner today and Bette Midler is trying to be flexible.

@HaileeSteinfeld: Someone hug me. I'm cold.

@billmaher: Vindication! Natl Hiway Traffic Safety Admin says driving stoned is safer than driving drunk. Altho not when the joint falls btwn ur legs...

@BetteMidler: Ruth Bader Ginsburg said she wasn't 100% sober at the State of the Union. To be fair, she was deciding the case of Red Wine v. White Wine.



Justin Bieber is Naomi Campbell's new BFF

Justin Bieber may be the fashion world's problem now, as he's been tearing it up at New York Fashion Week, blonde locks and all. He's been rubbing elbows with Kanye West, besting challengers at ping pong and rocking some truly questionable leather jackets and a hilariously wispy mustache. Not only that, but the Biebs scored himself a front-row seat for Naomi Campbell's Fashion for Relief event and got to be paraded around backstage by the hostess herself. They were even spotted holding hands. Hey, maybe the supermodel can finally get through to Bieber that the shirts that look like mini-dresses look stupid on him.

Daily video

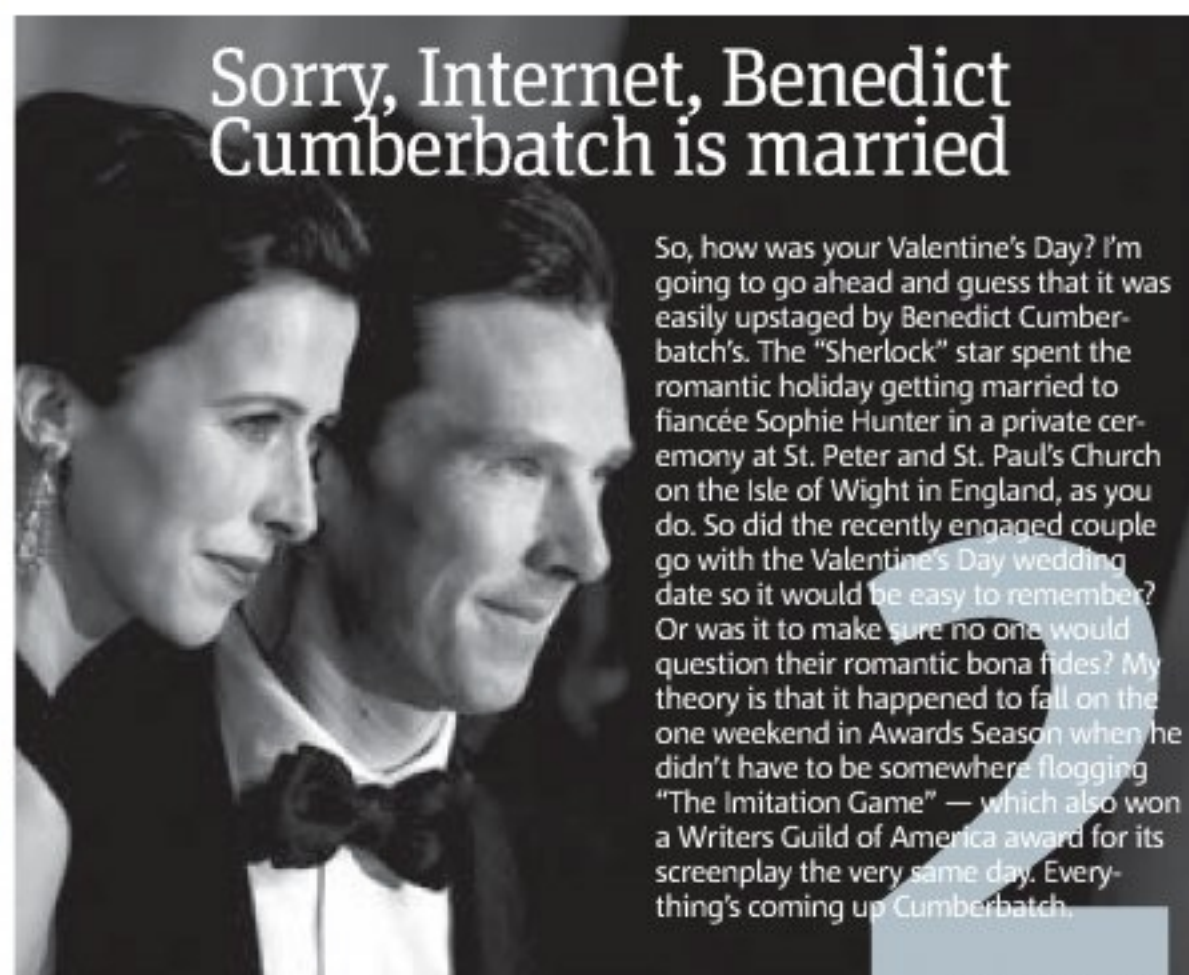
Alyson Stoner's Missy Elliot tribute

You may know Alyson Stoner best as a regular on Disney Channel fare like "The Suite Life of Zach and Cody" or from three of the various "Step Up" films, but she got her start nearly 15 years ago as the kiddie dancer in Missy



THEREALALYSONSTONER / YOUTUBE

Elliott's videos "Work It," "Gossip Folks" and "I'm Really Hot." Now, Stoner released her own video — featuring her amazing fancy footwork — dedicating it to Missy Elliot herself.



Sorry, Internet, Benedict Cumberbatch is married

So, how was your Valentine's Day? I'm going to go ahead and guess that it was easily upstaged by Benedict Cumberbatch's. The "Sherlock" star spent the romantic holiday getting married to fiancée Sophie Hunter in a private ceremony at St. Peter and St. Paul's Church on the Isle of Wight in England, as you do. So did the recently engaged couple go with the Valentine's Day wedding date so it would be easy to remember? Or was it to make sure no one would question their romantic bona fides? My theory is that it happened to fall on the one weekend in Awards Season when he didn't have to be somewhere flogging "The Imitation Game" — which also won a Writers Guild of America award for its screenplay the very same day. Everything's coming up Cumberbatch.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

NED EHRLAR
@Nedrick
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Cindy Crawford even looks gorgeous un-retouched

Cosmopolitan has a new spread featuring supermodel Cindy Crawford in all her 49-year-old glory, and they're not being shy about it. After the image leaked on Twitter, the magazine's staff went on record about the un-Photoshopped images. "An un-retouched photo of Cindy Crawford has been circulating on Twitter this morning, revealing a body that defies expectations—it is real, it is honest, and it is gorgeous," a statement from the magazine states.



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The Breakthrough: Taron Egerton

The facts

- **Who:** Taron Egerton
- **Where you may have seen him:** The 25-year-old English actor had a key role on the 2014 British TV drama "The Smoke."
- **Where he is now:** His first feature is as the protagonist of "Kingsman: The Secret Service," in which he plays a young Londoner recruited to try out for the titular, super-secret agency, alongside no less than Colin Firth and Michael Caine.
- **Where he's going:** He's playing Tom Hardy's lover in Brian Helgeland's "Legend," about noted gangster brothers the Krays (both played by Hardy), and "Testament of Youth" with Kit Harington and Alicia Vikander.

Introductions.

The young star of 'Kingsman' tells us about acting with legends and his unlikely first role.

Was he nervous to act alongside legends?: "I get asked this question a lot, and I think it's about this desire to romanticize it. I didn't walk in expecting to trip over my shoelaces while blubbering. They were just very, very friendly. Colin left me a message the night before to make sure I was relaxed. You meet them in the flesh and they're normal blokes. They're just millionaires and I'm not."

His Wikipedia page says he has stage combat experience. Is this true?: "I'd done a very small amount of stage combat. That's Wikipedia kind

of fodder, really. They look at the profile on my drama school's website, which is written in management-speak — designed to make you look like you have a skill set when you actually don't."

The film's portrayal of a low-income kid made over into a gentleman: "I think if you checked in with the character after the film he'd still be wearing the clothes he was wearing at the beginning. I don't think the film is in any way saying [he changes].



Taron Egerton shares some brandy with Michael Caine in "Kingsman: The Secret Service," in theaters now. / JAAP BUITENDIJK

There's nothing wrong with who he is at the start. There are certain things wrong with his life, but they are not synonymous with his low income or his background."

His first role: "I was 15 when I started. I played a 'mechanical' in 'A Midsummer Nights Dream.' The 'mechanicals' are the players who did the

play for the king and queen. My character played a woman in the play. So my first role I was dressed up as a woman. I was in a red cocktail dress. That's when I fell in love with acting, while I was in drag. Can't wait to do it again."



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New heaters go to Pennsylvania residents by zip code

Brand new heaters are being delivered to the first Philadelphia area callers who beat the 3 day order deadline to get brand new Efficiency Plus heaters that drastically slash heat bills

Never be cold again: If you live in one of the zip code areas listed below call the Toll Free Hotlines to get the new heater that only uses about the same energy per hour as a coffee maker to help make heat bills hit rock bottom

PENNSYLVANIA – The Toll Free Hotlines are ringing off the hook.

That's because Philadelphia area residents who find the first two digits of their zip code listed in today's publication are getting brand new heaters that quickly put a stop to high heat bills forever.

But so many people are calling to get the new heaters it's nearly impossible to answer all the calls from Philadelphia area residents," said David O'Neill, General Manager of U.S. based Heat Surge.

"That's why we've asked the Metro Philadelphia to print the Heater Claim Form in today's publication so area residents can get the new heaters. The only thing residents need to do is return the Heater Claim Form to the right postmarked no later than 3 days from today's publication date to get the new heaters," said O'Neill.

Philadelphia area residents who get the new Heat Surge® Efficiency Plus™ heaters by calling the Toll Free Hotlines or returning the Heater Claim Form to the right before the 3-day order deadline ends will never have to pay high heat bills again.

Demand for Heat Surge heaters has skyrocketed ever since consumer reviews surfaced showing just how much money people are saving on heat bills which is why this announcement is being so widely advertised.

Here's how it works. The brand new Hybrid-Thermic® heater eliminates high heat bills and saves you a substantial amount of money by outsmarting your home thermostat. This little heating genius uses super advance Hybrid-Thermic heat technology to keep the actual temperature in any room a bone-soothing 74° so you'll never be cold again.

But here's the real miracle. It keeps you that warm even when your home thermostat is turned clear down to 59°. That means you'll save a substantial amount of money on heat bills with this zone heating because your furnace rarely ever kicks on since the Heat Surge Hybrid-Thermic heater keeps the actual room temperature a constant 74°.

According to the avalanche of consumer reviews for the original Heat Surge heaters, people absolutely swear by them, repeatedly saying, "it saves money," "looks beautiful," and "keeps you warm and cozy." That's why Philadelphia area residents will be scrambling to get them beginning at precisely 8:30am this morning.

And here's the best part. A 3-day Double Coupon has been reprinted in today's



■ **ON THEIR WAY:** New Heat Surge Efficiency Plus heaters will soon be delivered to lucky Philadelphia area residents who beat the 3-day order deadline and live in one of the zip code areas listed in today's publication. Everyone's getting the upstairs-downstairs efficiency combo of two Heat Surge Efficiency Plus heaters because they only use pennies an hour of electricity to drastically slash home heat bills.

publication for readers to use.

By using this coupon, everyone who calls or returns the Heater Claim Form to the right is being rewarded with \$130 off. That makes this remarkable new heater a real steal at just \$129 and since it's a Double Coupon, it not only gives you a massive discount, but also entitles you to Free shipping and Free handling, too.

The new Efficiency Plus heater is totally safe to the touch and comes fully assembled with *Fireless Flame®* technology that gives you the peaceful flicker of a real fire but without

any flames, fumes, ashes, or mess.

"People everywhere got off easy last winter, but everyone knows that freezing cold weather is right around the corner. And we all know that frigid cold temperatures mean skyrocketing heat bills," said O'Neill.

That's why everyone is rushing to get the new Heat Surge Efficiency Plus heaters.

Readers are authorized to use the 3-day Double Coupon more than once. But there is a catch. You can only get away with it for the next three days by calling the Toll Free Hotline or return-

ing the Heater Claim Form printed here before the deadline ends.

"To make sure everyone gets their new Heat Surge Efficiency Plus heater before the harsh winter weather hits, UPS® drivers have been instructed to make home deliveries anywhere in the United States," O'Neill said.

The Toll Free Hotlines are extremely busy. Residents who can not get through just need to return the Heater Claim Form printed here postmarked by midnight 3 days from today's publication date. ■

(continued on next page)

Who Gets the Heaters: Listed below are the zip codes that get the new heaters. If you find the first two digits of your zip code listed below immediately call **1-866-815-7110 Ext.10516**

AK 99	CT 06	IA 50, 51, 52	LA 70, 71	MO 63, 64, 65	NH 03	OH 41, 43, 44, 45	SC 29	VT 05
AL 35, 36	DC 20	ID 83	MA 01, 02, 05	MS 38, 39	NJ 07, 08	OK 73, 74	SD 57	WA 98, 99
AR 71, 72	DE 19	IL 60, 61, 62	MD 20, 21	MT 59	NM 87, 88	OR 97	TN 37, 38	WI 53, 54
AZ 85, 86	FL 32, 33, 34	IN 46, 47	ME 03, 04	NC 27, 28	NV 88, 89	PA 15, 16, 17, 18, 19	TX 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 88	WV 24, 25, 26
CA N/A	GA 30, 31, 39	KS 66, 67	MI 48, 49	ND 58	NY 00, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	RI 02	UT 84	WY 82, 83
CO 80, 81	HI 96	KY 40, 41, 42	MN 55, 56	NE 68, 69			VA 20, 22, 23, 24	

(continued from previous page)

How It Works: It outsmarts your home thermostat and gives you 74° of bone-soothing room heat even when your thermostat is turned down to 59°

Both Home Thermostats set at 59°



ZONE HEATING SLASHES HEAT BILLS: Notice how the home thermostat is set at 59°. The left shows the new Heat Surge Efficiency Plus heater blanketing the whole room with 74° of warmth.

mecca of cutting edge technology in the Far East uses just a trickle of electricity to save you money based on a U.S. average that says it uses just pennies of electricity an hour, yet it produces up to an amazing 3,685 British Thermal Units (BTUs) delivering a full 1,200 watts on the standard setting. The ultra portable Efficiency Plus is just 13.438" W x 9.438" H x 6.625" D and comes fully assembled so when it arrives, all you do is just plug it in.

Everyone is sick and tired of paying high heat bills. That's why smart consumers are rushing to get the brand new Heat Surge Efficiency Plus heaters. They eliminate high heat bills and save you a substantial amount of money by outsmarting your home thermostat.

Here's how it works. This little heating genius uses super advance Hybrid-Thermic heat technology to keep the actual temperature in any room a bone-soothing 74° so you'll never be cold again. But here's the real miracle. It keeps you that warm even when your home thermostat is turned clear down to 59°. That means you'll save a substantial amount of money on heat bills with this zone heating because your furnace rarely ever kicks on since the Heat Surge Hybrid-Thermic heater keeps the actual room temperature a constant 74°.

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TO USE THIS COUPON: To get the new Heat Surge Efficiency Plus for just \$129 you must call the Toll Free Hotline at: **1-866-815-7110 Ext.10516** before the deadline ends.

THE TOLL FREE HOTLINES ARE EXTREMELY BUSY. IF YOU CAN NOT GET THROUGH RETURN THE FORM BELOW

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		SHIPPING & HANDLING	\$ <u>FREE</u>
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★★★★★

My neighbors are jealous of how low my heating bills are.

"I am saving hundreds on my gas bills."

★★★★★

I just love my fireplace.

"I recommend them to everyone. It has saved me so much money!!"

★★★★★

They are just fantastic!

"I have never been as pleased with anything in my entire life as I am with my heaters. I live alone and my cat and I just adore them."

★★★★★

I like my Heat Surge fireplace.

"It saves me a lot of money on my gas bill."

★★★★★

I would not trade the Heat Surge for anything.

"I really love my Heat Surge for a lot of reasons. It heats my dining room and living room. I have had it for 3 years and it has saved me a fortune in propane gas usage."

★★★★★

We are really spoiled by our Heat Surge!

"Within the first month, our electric bill went down dramatically."

★★★★★

It fits perfectly in the condo.

"The craftsmanship is beautiful and it heats up fast. I have not had to touch the thermostat and I can wear comfortable clothing and not be all bundled up. There is no heat smell when it kicks on. It has helped us save on our gas bill dramatically. I love the ambiance!"

*Unsolicited consumer feedback from satisfied customers, as reported to Heat Surge, LLC. With zone heating, users can turn down the home thermostat and use the fireplace to heat only the room being used. Actual savings will vary depending on factors such as local climate, local energy costs, system settings, home construction and individual usage. Heat Surge rated these customer reviews 5 stars.

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Scandinavian countries are not as perfect as they seem

Non-fiction. As the weekend shootings in Denmark show, Nordic countries are no Utopia. Journalist and author Michael Booth weighs in.

he says he really does love Denmark and lives there by choice, he wants to correct a few misconceptions outsiders have. Here, he sets the record straight.

content. But I wouldn't say they're happy," he says.

Getting what you pay for?

We often talk admiringly about how Nordic countries have free college tuition, universal health care and inexpensive child care. But is the quality of these services worth what they pay in taxes? "Well, that's kind of my big grouch as a foreigner," Booth says, adding that the services are mediocre. "It's tough as a freelancer to give up more than 50 percent of [my] income directly. And then the food and shops are more expensive as well," he says, citing the 25 percent sales tax Denmark has on clothes.

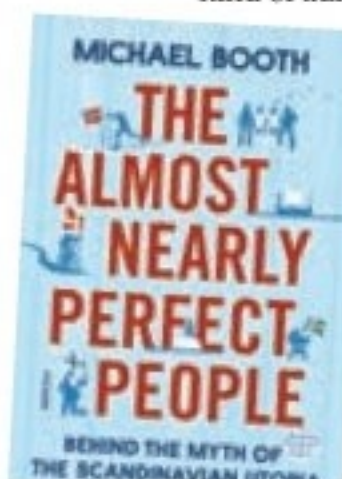
It's easier to be a social climber

Ironically, the American

The happiness myth

For decades Denmark would always come in on top as the happiest country in the world, but Booth says these surveys can be misleading. "When I spoke to the people behind these surveys, they kind of admit that 'happy' is the wrong word and they only use it to get headlines," he tells us. "What they're really measuring is life satisfaction and how content people are. Danes are incredibly

As Americans, we live in a country where being a workaholic is praised, child care is never free and higher education is a massive expense. We often look to countries like Denmark, Sweden and Norway as peaceful places where no one is overworked and everyone dresses cool. Journalist Michael Booth has lived in Scandinavia — Denmark to be exact — for 10 years. While



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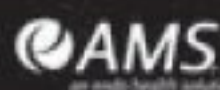
1. Viagra[®] Prescribing Information, Pfizer Inc. Revised January 2010.

2. Cialis[®] Prescribing Information, Lilly USA, LLC. Revised October 2011.

3. Levitra[®] Prescribing Information, Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals. Revised November 2011.

4. AMS 100[®] Patient Manual. Information and instructions for Patients Considering an IntraUterine Pessary. American Medical Systems, 2012.

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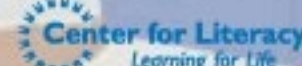


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Not all bad

3 things
Danes get right

1 Be social. Danish people have high social memberships, such as being part of a sports league or volunteering.

2 Appreciate the simple things. Instead of valuing things that are flashy or expensive, Danes truly value spending time with their family and friends more than anything else.

3 Stop working so hard. When it comes to work-life balance, Danes tip the scale way in favor of life. They work to live, not live to work.

Dream is easier to accomplish in Scandinavia. "It starts with free education. ... If a working class kid wants to become a professional, he doesn't have to take out loans to finance his education."



EMILY LAURENCE
@EmLaurence
emily.laurence@metro.us



Way of life

Where OK is
good enough

Though social mobility is much easier, Booth says flaunting wealth is a big faux-pas. "A lack of ambition really drives these societies," he says.

Michael Booth is a British journalist who has lived in Denmark for more than 10 years. / PROVIDED

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Tuesday, February 17, 2015

TELEVISION 24

TV Watch list



Gibbs looks sad that he has to sit out this case against his archnemesis on "NCIS." / MONTY BRINTON, CBS

COMEDY

'New Girl'

The whole loft crew (plus Cece) head back to Portland, Oregon, for Jess' father's wedding. We're hoping for some embarrassing flashbacks of high school-era Jess and Cece.
9 P.M., FOX

'Parks and Recreation'

The "Parks" farewell tour continues, with another doubleheader of episodes. In the first one, Andy films the last episode of his Johnny Karate TV show. We wish that was a real program, because we would surely watch it if it was.
8 P.M., NBC

DRAMA

'NCIS'

Gibbs makes the difficult decision to sit out a fight against his archnemesis because he wants to spend time with Fornell, who's still reeling from the loss of his wife.
8 P.M., CBS

TALK SHOW

'The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon'

Taylor Swift fans should tune in tonight, as she'll be stopping by the show. Maybe she can talk about that never-ending "Californians" sketch on "SNL" Sunday night.
11:35 P.M., NBC
LISA WEIDENFELD

Finding success as a 'Have Not'

Interview. Tyler Lepley didn't have plans to be an actor before landing a role on Tyler Perry's hit soap opera.

show."

That show, now in its third season, is the most popular scripted series on Oprah Winfrey's OWN. Only Winfrey's interview with Bobbi Kristina Brown has scored higher ratings for the network.

The series follows the drama connected to an opulent Savannah, Georgia, mansion. Lepley plays the beefy Benny, a have not.

"One of the reasons why the show is doing so well is ... the dichotomy of the way these two different cultures interact with each other," Lepley says. "If we're have nots in the tangible world, through hard work and faith and staying diligent every single day, you can overcome those circumstances."

"I'm living proof of that. I come from a have not world, and working hard got me here and working hard will get me to the next level."

The road to success takes many unexpected turns.

For Tyler Lepley of Doylestown, star of the OWN soap opera "The Haves and the Have Nots," one of those turns included auditioning for a man in drag.

If you haven't guessed, the man in drag was Tyler Perry, creator of "The Haves and the Have Nots."

"He was in the middle of shooting 'A Madea Christmas,' and the thing about him is, as funny as it was and as much as you get a chuckle out of it, it was the first time I really understood what type of drive he had and what type of diligence he had," Lepley says. "He is such a hard worker that he was shooting a movie while he was casting his next

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- Valid State ID
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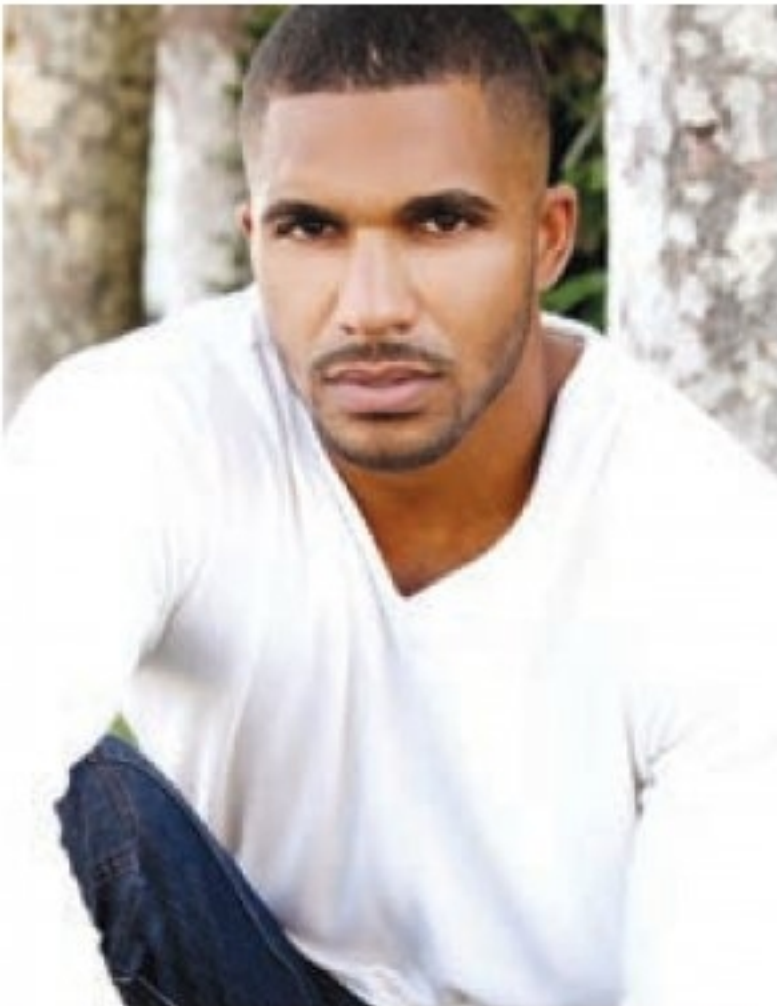
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Tyler Lepley stars in "The Haves and the Have Nots," tonight at 9 on OWN. / THE CHAMBER GROUP

Discovered

His big break

Lepley, a running back for Kutztown University who used to hang out in Hunting Park, was discovered while working at a gym in Santa Monica after he had moved to California.

"I was approached while I was hanging out at the gym," Lepley, 27, says. "I had nothing else going on at the time. ... I went to an audition

and I had never acted or thought about doing anything like that. It was an interesting process."

See the aforementioned "Madea" callback.

"Whether outside the show or outside this field of work, what I'm going to try to do in life is just maximize all the potential I have, because the thing about it is," he says, "potential doesn't mean anything if you don't do something about it."

Two plays to see this week

'The Whale'

Through March 1
Studio X
1340 S. 13th St.
\$35, 215-218-4022
www.theatreexile.org
Theatre Exile presents the Philadelphia premiere of this play by Samuel D. Hunter, which centers on a 600-pound man who's slowing eating himself to death, sunk as deep into despair as he is into his couch. His last hope lies with the series of guests who pop round his apartment, including his bitter daughter, his best friend and a Mormon missionary. Philly actor Scott Greer dons the rotund costume, which required a specially built dressing room — it wouldn't fit through the

aisles or doors of the theater.

'Milk Like Sugar'

Through March 8
Adrienne Theater
2030 Sansom St.
\$20-\$25, 215-423-0254
www.simpaticotheatre.org
Simpatico Theater Project presents this play by Kristen Greenidge, about three teenage girls who make a "pregnancy pact," naively thinking it will improve their already slim chances of a happy life. One girl, Margie, is pregnant already, but another, Annie, starts to get cold feet, and dreams of going to college to study literature. But will her loyalty to her besties win out?

MATTHEW DINARO



Kate Czajkowski is Liz and Scott Greer is the 600-pound Charlie in the Philly premiere of "The Whale." / PAOLA NOGUERAS

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The standout

Public School

Ladies and gentlemen, meet the puffer cape. Public School distilled two of fall's biggest trends — the poncho and the puffer — into one giant cloud-like garment that looked more like a blanket than a coat. We guarantee every editor in attendance wished she had one this week.

Urbane sizzle meets '70s glamour at NYFW

Reviews



Prabal Gurung

A trip to the Adirondacks in upstate New York inspired Prabal Gurung's collection of oversize funnel-necked sweaters, fur-trimmed velvet coats and Native American-inspired patterns, which appeared on the designer's signature slit-up-to-there dresses.

Gurung has proved he can do sexy multiple times (the frocks felt a little been-there-done-that), but the coziness here was new. The deconstructed fair isle knits, particularly in a figure-hugging midi dress, felt fresh. **RAQUEL LANERI**



DKNY

DKNY's city badass gets fancy for fall, tricking out the season's big menswear-inspired trend with sparkly details like bedazzled undone ties on tailored suits or jewel embellishments on a tough bomber.

The outerwear was the star of the show: Smart, clean wool coats in gray, camel, navy and herringbone grabbed attention. No flash necessary.

TINA CHADHA



DVF

"Girl you work it" lyrics from The Weekend's new single for "50 Shades" seduced as models hit the runway. Working it is exactly what the women who wear DVF's unabashedly sexy collection will do.

While the daywear just hinted at sexuality (the classic décolletage-exposing wrap dress, a fitted pinstripe suit and coquettish florals), it's evening when the femme fatale comes out, with slinky slipdresses, red lace cocktail numbers and some oh la la, leave-little-to-the-imagination gowns. **TC**



Jason Wu

At Jason Wu's slightly subversive fall outing, the designer showed exceptionally tailored trousers, demure dresses with eyebrow-raising slits and luxe fur stoles in military green, inky black and soft gray.

Wu, who's dressed first lady Michelle Obama for a fancy occasion or two, knows his way around gorgeous evening wear. This season he kept it fuss free: beaded T-shirt gowns, a shiny black jumpsuit, and a light-as-air white crepe halter that was just breathtaking. Oscar nominees, are you reading? **TC**



Derek Lam

New York literati like Diane Keaton and Katharine Hepburn inspired the long, billowy trousers and '70s-tinged tweed suits in Derek Lam's refined collection.

But we were also charmed by the knits: The cool opening navy V-neck with elbow patches, ever so slightly oversize hazelnut-colored crewneck or any of the polished wool turtlenecks will be supersmart buys. **TC**



Banana Republic expands to babies

Sneak peek. You will have to wait until Feb. 25 to get your hands on this offer online.



EMILY LAURENCE
@EmLaurence
emily.laurence@metro.us

Banana Republic is introducing its first baby line, Banana Republic Mini, a capsule collection of cozy clothing and accessories for babies ages 0-12 months. It's not the cheapest babywear, but it's adorable. The line has a fun, urban feel, with colors kept in black, soft grays and cream. Made

with cashmere, pure cotton knits and terry cloth, your baby will be bundled up in the softest separates and sweaters. The collection will be available online starting Feb. 25. Prices range from \$24-\$198, with a cashmere blanket being the ultimate lux item in the collection.



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Ashlee Simpson's son Bronx tries out the new Crayola Color Alive coloring books. / PROVIDED

Crayola steps up the coloring game

Toys. These just might be the coolest coloring books ever.

When we were kids, the best thing about coloring was getting to use the 64-pack of crayons with the built-in sharpener. That's no longer enough to impress kids these days, so Crayola has gone back to the drawing board to reinvent this favorite childhood pastime.

The new Crayola Color Alive Coloring Pages take what kids color and make their creations come alive using a digital app (because, of course). Compatible with iOS, Android and Windows devices, parents can down-

load the app for free on Crayola's website, the App Store or Google Play.

After kids finish coloring their picture in one of the books (which retail for between \$1.99 and \$5.99, the same price as low-tech coloring books), they can scan their creation and an animated version will show up on the app. So if

they color in a dragon, it will fly and breathe fire in the digital version.

Kids can even insert themselves into their creation by taking a selfie, which will show up in the digital version of their coloring creation. They can also save their characters so they can play with them later and can share them with their friends — or super impressed grandparents.

The Color Alive line just began, but there is already a celeb fan: Ashlee Simpson and her son, Bronx, who were spotted at a party Crayola threw to celebrate the release. Even celebs love arts and crafts.

Need to know:

Crayola Color Alive Coloring Pages

Platform: iOS, Android, Windows

App Price: Free

Coloring Book Price: \$1.99-\$5.99



EMILY LAURENCE
@EmLaurence
emily.laurence@metro.us

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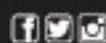
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Maurice Hicks - Philadelphia, Suffered Stroke in 2006 at Age 38.
To hear Maurice's story go to www.foodfitphilly.org

Horoscope

Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Stay in the background, where you can watch and learn. Adopting a bold stance will not be to your advantage.

Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20 You will have an incredible impact on others. Discuss your intentions and map out your plans. Your contribution will result in respect.

Aries | March 21-April 20 If change is required, you should take action. Waiting for someone else to make a move will waste valuable time. You have the know-how, so don't procrastinate.

Taurus | April 21-May 21 Have fun by becoming involved in creative activities. Include the youngsters in your life and it will bring you closer together.

Gemini | May 22-June 20 Your ideas won't go far if you keep them bottled up. Share your thoughts and take part in events. The more people you meet, the more allies you will recruit.

Cancer | June 21-July 22 Keep a close watch on your wallet. If someone comes to you with a tale of woe, help out with suggestions and keep your money safe.

Leo | July 23-Aug. 22 It is time to step back and re-evaluate a current partnership. Staying involved with someone for the wrong reasons will not bring good results.

Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22 The extra effort needed to maintain a healthy lifestyle will pay off. If you slip, don't beat yourself up. The important thing is to keep trying.

Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22 It's hard to get serious about your future if you remain stuck in the same routine and habits. Shake off the cobwebs.

Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21 Question your commitment to someone or something. It's not fair to lead someone on if you have lost interest.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Making extra time for the people who count in your life will be appreciated. Negotiations will prove to be fruitful. Strive to excel.

Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Handling finances for other people will be risky and thankless. Without the proper precautions, you will end up facing some serious losses. **EUGENIA LAST**

Sudoku: Easy and hard

		5		7		1		4
4				9	2	7		
7		8						5
	8			1				
	6	9				2	3	
				6			9	
	7					3		9
		3	1	5				2
9		2		3		4		

	5	4						
			4		3	1		
6	1	8	2			4		
			3	4				6
4	9			2			1	8
7				1	8			
		1			2	6	8	4
		9	5		4			
						5	9	

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword

Across

- 1 Shopping plaza
- 5 Turn signal
- 10 "Yikes!" (hyph.)
- 14 Not into the wind
- 15 Tijuana kid
- 16 Vineyard valley
- 17 Wool-eater
- 18 Solitude enjoyer
- 19 Dart
- 20 Chiffonier
- 22 Belt alternative
- 24 Nose stimuli
- 25 Feel curious
- 26 Chan rejoinder (2 wds.)
- 28 One-celled plants
- 32 Link up
- 35 Affectedly modest
- 37 Naval officer
- 38 PIN prompter
- 39 Custom
- 41 Software problem
- 42 Made candles
- 45 Relatives
- 46 Go off course
- 47 Writing assignment
- 48 Ancient harp
- 50 Tracked down
- 54 Fierce whales
- 58 Sure to happen (3 wds.)
- 61 Cover crop
- 62 Barge
- 63 Tally

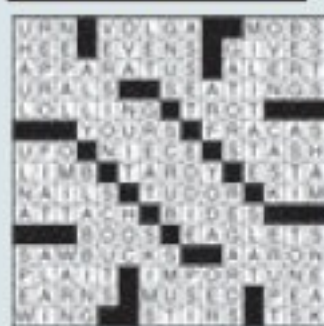
- 65 Cyrus' realm, now
- 66 Sand mandala builder
- 67 Tarot readers
- 68 Chilean boy
- 69 "No sweat!"
- 70 Ms. Lauder
- 71 Duffel filler

Down

- 1 Ballroom number
- 2 Audibly
- 3 Nostalgic fashion
- 4 Mideast capital (var.)
- 5 Rights org.
- 6 Frat letter
- 7 Beatles drummer
- 8 Canoe anagram
- 9 Universe
- 10 Unfold a flag
- 11 Holbrook et al.
- 12 Sheriff Andy's kid
- 13 Chapeaus
- 21 Blonde shade
- 23 Bend forward
- 25 Goes to court?
- 27 Race by, as clouds
- 29 Taunt
- 30 Flu symptom
- 31 MIT grad
- 32 Oriental-art stone
- 33 Cornelia — Skinner

- 34 Scamps
- 36 Talk, talk, talk
- 37 Counting-rhyme start
- 40 Coat with gold
- 43 Trail
- 44 Fictional governess
- 46 Bordering on
- 49 Future fish
- 51 Degrade
- 52 Canary abodes
- 53 Wading bird
- 55 Marie or Pierre
- 56 Freezer name
- 57 Hombre's title
- 58 Castaway's refuge
- 59 Orange Bowl org.
- 60 Back-fence yowlers
- 61 — majeste
- 64 Sooner than anon

Weekend's answer



Letters to the editor

A healthy, holy diet

This Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the 40-day period before Easter, when many Christians abstain from animal foods in remembrance of Jesus' 40 days of fasting in the desert before launching his ministry. But meat-free Lent is much more than a symbol of religious devotion to Christ. It helps reduce the risk of chronic disease, environmental degradation, and animal abuse. Dozens of medical reports have linked consumption of animal products with elevated risk of heart failure, stroke, cancer, and other killer diseases. A 2007 U.N. report named meat production as the largest source of greenhouse gases and water pollution. Undercover investigations

have documented farm animals being beaten, caged, crowded, deprived, mutilated, and shocked. Lent offers a superb opportunity to honor Christ's powerful message of compassion and love by adopting a meat-free diet for Lent and beyond. After all, it's the diet mandated in Genesis 1-29 and observed in the Garden of Eden.

Our supermarkets offer a rich array of plant-based meat and dairy alternatives, as well as the more traditional vegetables, fruits, and grains. Entering "vegan recipes" in our favorite search engine offers more products, recipes, and transition tips than we can use.

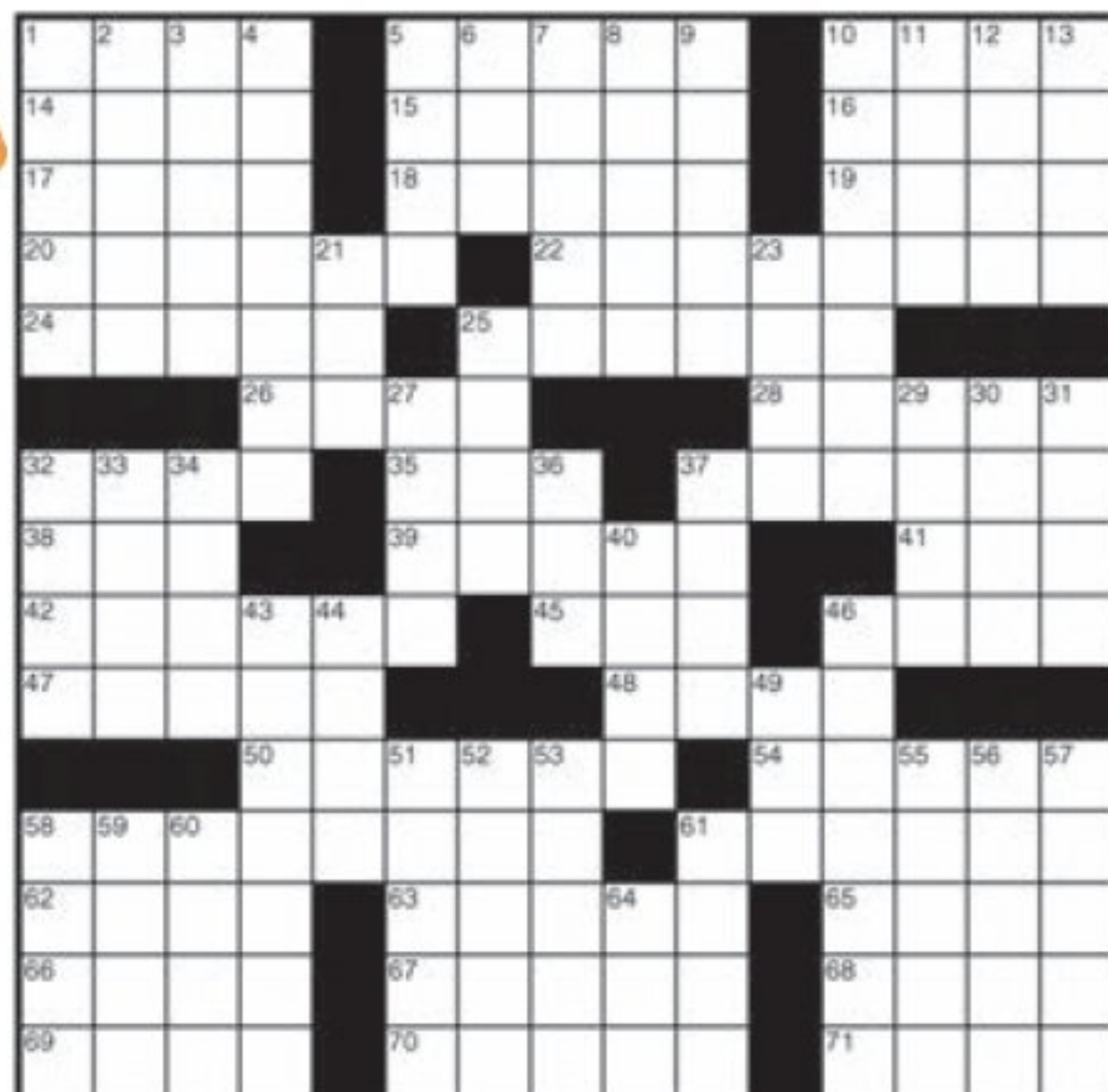
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3

SPORTS

Big 5 hardware

Local hoops hardware

After Temple's seventh straight win this weekend, the AAC named guard Will Cummings Player of the Week. Cummings had 19 points, 5.5 assists, 5.0 rebounds and 3.0 steals in a pair of wins. Villanova's Darrun Hillard split Big 5 Player of the Week with La Salle's Jordan Price.

NHL power rankings | by Rich Slate

No. 1



Predators
(38-12-6)

The Predators are flying high: They have the most points in the NHL (82) and they are riding the longest current win streak in the NHL (five games). Nashville bolstered its depth by trading for Toronto defenseman Cody Franson and forward Mike Santorelli on Sunday, signaling that they are really going for a Stanley Cup this season.

No. 2



Blues
(37-15-4)

The second-best team in the NHL also resides in the Central Division. St. Louis has won its last three games and is 8-2-0 in its last 10 games. Their stellar week lifted them from fifth to the No. 2 spot. The Blues are currently tied with Chicago for the best goal-differential in the league (plus-41).

No. 3



Canadiens
(36-15-4)

The top two teams in the Eastern Conference are having quite a battle in the Atlantic Division. Montreal and Tampa Bay both have 76 points but the Canadiens have done it in three fewer games and they are 7-2-1 in their last 10 games. Montreal has a big divisional showdown Monday in Detroit.

No. 4



Lightning
(35-17-6)

Tampa Bay kicked off its five-game road trip by destroying San Jose, 5-2, on Sunday. Things figure to get tougher for the Lightning in Los Angeles on Monday and Anaheim on Wednesday. Tampa Bay's goal-differential (plus-33) is the second-best in the East behind the Rangers (plus-37).

No. 5



Ducks
(35-15-7)

With Frederik Andersen on IR (neck), the Ducks are scuffling a bit (4-5-1 in their last 10 games), but their 11-point lead over the Sharks is likely safe. Anaheim lost 5-3 to Washington on Sunday but at least Ryan Getzlaf was able to publicly bash Capitals star Alex Ovechkin for diving "all over the ice."

No. 6



B'Hawks
(35-18-4)

The Blackhawks are picking it up (5-3-2 in their last 10 games) to grab the fourth seed in the Western Conference. Marian Hossa is on fire, he had two goals in three straight games last week to earn the No. 1 star in the NHL. Chicago has four more games in a row at the United Center.

No. 7



Islanders
(33-18-2)

The Islanders have bounced back with four wins in a row. It is a big week for them as they hosted the Rangers on Monday and Predators on Wednesday. They also go to Washington on Saturday while Vancouver visits on Sunday. They have scored the second-most goals (179) in the league.

No. 8



Red Wings
(31-13-10)

The Red Wings dropping four spots from last week is more a function of the teams around them playing really well since they are still 7-2-1 in their last 10. They are four points behind Montreal and Tampa but they have a good chance to catch the Lightning since they've played four less games.

No. 9



Penguins
(32-15-9)

The Penguins are 6-3-1 in their last 10 games and they were right there before dropping a 2-1 shootout in Chicago on Sunday. Tuesday's game against Washington is very important in the Metropolitan Division standings. Saturday in St. Louis should also be an entertaining tilt for the Penguins.



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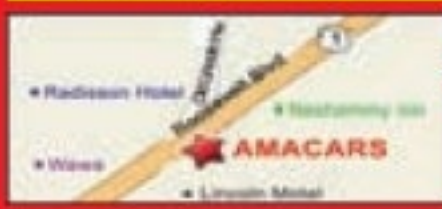
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**\$0
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**\$0
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 Interior Air Filtration,
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**Like
New!**



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**\$0
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**Like
New!**



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**Like
New!**



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 Control, Fuel Efficient,
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**Like
New!**



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New!**



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**Like
New!**



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**Like
New!**



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AWD



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 Navigation, Bluetooth,
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 Moonroof, Alloy Wheels \$18,900,
 \$339/Month

**\$0
Down**



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 Keyless Entry, One-Touch
 Windows, Privacy Glass \$19,900,
 \$356/Month

**Like
New!**



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 Video Monitor, Navigation,
 AWD, Heated Leather Seats,
 Bluetooth, Moonroof,
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 Control, 7 Speed \$19,900,
 \$356/Month

**\$0
Down**



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Sahara



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XLT



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 Heated Leather Seats, OnStar,
 Alloy Wheels, Rear View
 Camera, Navigation,
 Dual Climate Control \$19,900,
 \$356/Month

**\$0
Down**



2011 BMW X5

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 Bluetooth, Dual Climate
 Control, Privacy Glass,
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MACNOW: PREDICTING NEXT MVP FROM EACH PHILLY TEAM

Opinion

GLEN MACNOW

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Glen Macnow has been an outspoken voice in Philly sports for nearly three decades.



These are, of course, the leanest times in Philadelphia sports. The Flyers and Sixers will both miss this year's playoffs. The Eagles finished two games behind the stinkin' Cowboys, and rewarded Chip Kelly by making him emperor of all he can see. And the Phillies? Well, president Pat Gillick proclaimed they may not be contenders until 2018.

Until 2018? Three years? I'm not arguing with Gillick. In fact, I'd love to fast-forward our sports world to 2018. What are we going to miss — an Olympics or two? Mo'ne Davis dominating high school hoops?

So here's my question: When 2018 gets here, who will be this city's best player? Who's our future Iverson, McNabb, Halladay or Lindros? Who's the next to win an MVP?

Let's go team by team.



Flyers

Connor McDavid. Just kidding. Right now, the Flyers have a 3.5 percent chance of landing hockey's next can't-miss superstar. Just slightly better than my odds for winning that \$500 million lottery earlier this month.

The best of 2018 is already here: Claude Giroux, now 27, or Jakub Voracek, 25. I'll give it to Giroux, the more complete package. Here's hoping, however, there's a defenseman whose name is even worth mentioning three years from now.

Claude Giroux is already one of the NHL's top players — and he's still just 25 years old. / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

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J.P. Crawford is the Phillies' top prospect, and the young shortstop could make an impact as early as this season.

Phillies

I'd bet not more than a half-dozen players from last season's roster will even be here in 2018. Unfortunately, two of them may be Dom Brown and Ben Revere.

So who'll be their

best? Ken Giles may evolve into an all-star closer, but I can't give it to a guy throwing 70 innings. Maikel Franco fielded better than expected, but still hasn't learned to hit.

It says here the best of the next generation

is either pitcher Aaron Nola or 20-year-old shortstop prospect J.P. Crawford. I'll pick Crawford, currently baseball's 32nd-best prospect. If you really want to see the future, head to Reading this season. They'll both be there.

Eagles

I'll defer to my friend, Ray Didinger, who nominates Fletcher Cox as the king of all future Eagles. The kid is ascending and could be football's top defensive tackle by 2018. Mychal Kendricks gets consideration from me. And maybe Jordan Matthews.

But my heart? My heart says I'd love to see Nick Foles be that guy. And I hope Marcus Mariota enjoys Cleveland.

Quoted

"These are, of course, the leanest times in Philadelphia sports."



FLETCHER COX COULD BE THE EAGLES BEST PLAYER FOR YEARS TO COME.



JOEL EMBIID MAY HIT THE FLOOR THIS SEASON.

76ers

This is the most interesting team, to be honest. The Sixers have the most possibilities: Dario Saric, Nerlens Noel, Michael Carter-Williams. If I were laying down real money (and there ought to be a prop bet for this), I'd bank it all on Joel Embiid.

Embiid, 20, is 7-feet tall and will score down low. He's also a natural athlete with a smooth mid-range game. At least that's what we're promised. He has to get healthy and stay healthy.

In fact, put my money on Embiid as Philadelphia's next MVP. Now, who have you got?

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SPORTS 34

Surging Flyers eying unlikely playoff berth

NHL. The Flyers return home for a Tuesday match with Columbus with their point streak still intact.

Connor who?

Well, so much for the Flyers replicating the Sixers and tanking for the rest of the season in order to improve their chances to land the No. 1 pick in the NHL draft lottery and selecting potential phenom Connor McDavid.

Much to the chagrin of some of their fans, the Flyers have altered course and decided to make a serious run at qualifying for the NHL Playoffs.

Behind a just-completed 2-0-2 road trip and with

at least one point in each of their last nine games — for the first time since March 8-26 in 2011 — the Flyers have left the McDavid race and re-entered the postseason dash.

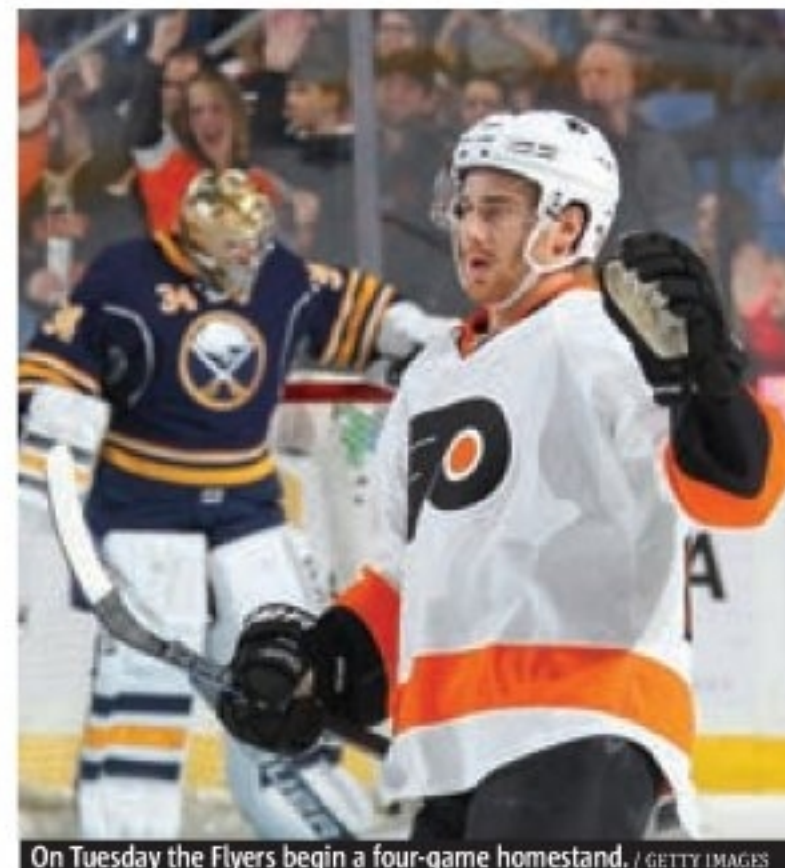
Heading into Monday's games, they were just five points behind the Boston Bruins for the second and final wild card spot.

The Flyers have 58 points and only the Panthers (60 points) are ahead of them in pursuit of the Bruins (63) — although Philly has played one more game than both teams. While the Flyers have been one of the hottest teams in the league (6-1-3 in their last 10), the Bruins and Panthers are scuffling and have each lost three straight.

Plus, the schedule remains favorable this week. The Flyers return home — where they are 15-7-4 — to host the struggling Columbus Blue Jackets on Tuesday and the lowly Sabres, who have the fewest points in the league, on Thursday.

"We've got to keep getting points," Flyers coach Craig Berube told reporters after winning 2-1 in Buffalo on Sunday night. "(We have to) claw our way back into the playoffs."

Despite their recent hot stretch, it's still going to



On Tuesday the Flyers begin a four-game homestand. / GETTY IMAGES

By the numbers

9

Philly has scored a point in nine straight games, the most since March 2011.

be difficult. Barring a complete collapse by Florida and Boston, the Flyers have little margin for error.

In the last three seasons the team that finished in the last playoff spot had 93, 92, 93 points. For the Flyers to match 92 points — a conservative total, at best — they would need 34

over their final 26 games. And that doesn't take into account the Panthers or Bruins ending with more than 92 points.

With seven weeks left in the season — and the looming trade deadline on March 2 — anything can obviously happen.

At this rate, though, the discussions about the Flyers will likely revolve more around the playoffs than Connor McDavid.

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NFL Combine: Players Eagles fans should watch

The NFL's annual scouting combine begins this week, and the fate of the Eagles' draft class could be determined by a handful of players and their performances in Indianapolis over the next few days. **LUKE MILLER**

The NFL combine kicks off this Tuesday, and while the defensive backs Eagles fans covet won't arrive until Friday, the week to that point should still show plenty of talent.

Here are some players who fit the Eagles' areas of need and could help — or hurt — their draft stock this week at the combine.

Derron Smith, S, Fresno St. (5'11", 197 lbs)

Smith is a master of many tasks at safety. He had 13 interceptions over his sophomore and junior seasons and can cover the slot. The question mark is his size: not the smallest safety, but not the prototype Kelly has made a point of coveting. Smith would give coaches more confidence in his ability to fight bigger receivers and tight ends for the ball by notching a good vertical at the combine.

Bryan Bennett, QB, Southeast Louisiana (6'4", 215 lbs)

Fans by now have become familiar with the "other" dual-threat Chip Kelly quarterback.

Bennett lost the competition to be Oregon's starting quarterback to Marcus Mariota before trans-



IF THE EAGLES TAKE A QB, IT'S MUCH MORE LIKELY TO BE BENNETT THAN MARIOTA.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

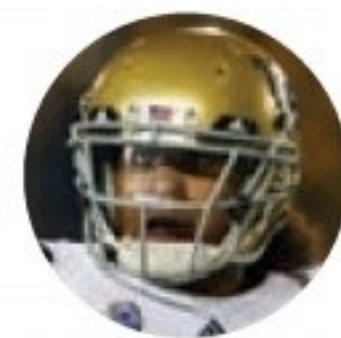
ferring. He started to receive more hype when he was a late addition to the Senior Bowl, but an erratic performance there didn't do him any favors.

The combine will give him another chance to prove he deserves a late-round selection.

When he's not completing his own drills, Bennett's arm will also be on display throwing for the wide receiver drills.

Eric Kendricks, ILB, UCLA (6', 230 lbs)

Another familiar name — this time the brother of current Eagle Mychal Kendricks. This Kendricks is likely to be taken in the first or second round of the draft. The 2014 Butkus award winner as the nation's top linebacker, Kendricks is an extremely productive linebacker who will have no problem re-



maining on the field during passing downs.

The important test for Kendricks will be his strength: how well can he shed blockers at the next level?

Shaq Thompson, OLB, Washington (6'1", 228 lbs)

Linebacker definitely isn't the Eagles' greatest position of need, but Brandon Graham's impending free agency, Demeco Ryans' injury rehab and Marcus Smith's ineffectiveness open the unit up to questions. While he has some of the same concerns as



Kendricks (size, strength) Thompson has displayed amazing versatility in college. He played some snaps at safety and even carried the ball for 456 yards at 7.5 yards per carry.

Jalen Collins, CB, LSU (6'2", 198 lbs)

Finally, the position we've all been waiting for. Mock drafts have been connecting the Eagles with a ton of cornerbacks lately, and some with character questions that, given Chip Kelly's past actions and statements about culture, seem more than unlikely. Collins, however,



Collins could be the dynamic cornerback the Birds desperately need.

looks like he could be a fit. The measurables he will bring to the combine

could move him up a lot of draft boards, including the Birds'.



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Phillies have pitching depth heading to camp

MLB. The Phillies have a bevy of options to pitch if an ace gets traded away.

The Phillies enter training camp in Clearwater with more questions about their pitching rotation than in any subsequent year in the Ruben Amaro era.

And while it's known that the Phils opening day starter will more than likely be ace Cole Hamels, not much else is clear cut in the remnants of one of the best five-man pitching units in history just half a decade ago.

Cliff Lee is the Phillies' No. 2, that is, if he is healthy enough to go come April, and if he doesn't wow onlookers in



Fans may have just a few more chances to see Hamels. /GETTY IMAGES

March so much that he is dealt before opening day.

As ESPN baseball insider Jayson Stark tweeted last week, "one exec who spoke with #Phillies says he was told they could move Cliff Lee as soon as spring training if he

proves he's healthy."

Both Hamels and Lee could be gone come the July trade deadline. So what are the Phillies left with?

Chad Billingsley is a serviceable No. 3 heading into the season but far from an

ace. The same can be said in the No. 4 spot for the recently signed and well-traveled Aaron Harang and re-signed Jerome Williams.

After that, there's a lot of depth to weed through.

There are hurlers like David Buchanan, Miguel Alfredo Gonzalez, Jonathan Pettibone, Sean O'Sullivan and Kevin Slowey all chomping at the bit to audition with the Phillies to crack the starting five.

As the tough-to-swallow rebuild starts to begin in earnest, expect a bit of turnover in the pitching staff. In other words, don't be surprised at Citizens Bank Park this season when someone you've never heard of takes the mound.



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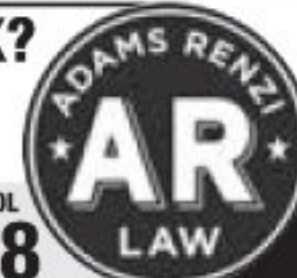
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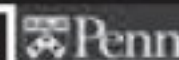
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